Congress of the United States
Washington, D.C. 20515

June 3, 2024

Mr. Gene D. Block Mr. Richard Leib
Chancellor Chair
University of California, Los Angeles UC Board of Regents
2147 Murphy Hall 1111 Franklin St., 12th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90095 Oakland,
CA 94607

Dr. Michael V. Drake
President
University of California
1111 Franklin St., 12th Floor
Oakland, CA 94607

Dear Mr. Block, Dr. Drake, and Mr. Leib,

The U.S. House of Representatives is deeply concerned by ongoing and pervasive acts of antisemitic harassment and intimidation at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). Failing to act decisively to ensure a safe learning environment for all students would be a grave dereliction of your responsibilities as Chancellor of UCLA, President of the University of California, and Chair of the UC Board of Regents.

This Congress will not stand idly by and allow an environment hostile to Jewish students to persist. The Department of Education Office for Civil Rights has initiated an investigation into your institution for Title VI Shared Ancestry violations.

Postsecondary education is a unique opportunity for students to learn and have their ideas and beliefs challenged. However, universities receiving hundreds of millions of federal funds annually have denied students that opportunity and have been hijacked to become venues for the promotion of terrorism, antisemitic harassment and intimidation, unlawful encampments, and in some cases, assaults and riots.

The House of Representatives will not countenance the use of federal funds to indoctrinate students into hateful, antisemitic, anti-American supporters of terrorism. Investigations into campus antisemitism by the Committee on Education and the Workforce and the Committee on Ways and Means have been expanded into a Congress-wide probe across all relevant jurisdictions to address this national crisis. The undersigned Committees will conduct oversight into the use of federal funds at UCLA and its learning environment under authorities granted to each Committee.

- The Committee on Education and the Workforce has been investigating your institution since May 15, 2024. The Committee has broad jurisdiction over postsecondary education, including its compliance with Title VI of the *Civil Rights Act,* campus safety concerns over disruptions to the learning environment, and the awarding of federal student aid under the *Higher Education Act*.

• The Committee on Oversight and Accountability is investigating the sources of funding and other support flowing to groups espousing pro-Hamas propaganda and engaged in antisemitic harassment and intimidation of students. The Committee on Oversight and Accountability is the

principal oversight committee of the U.S. House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate "any matter" at "any time" under House Rule X.

• The Committee on Ways and Means has been investigating several universities since November 15, 2023, when the Committee held a hearing entitled From Ivory Towers to Dark Corners: Investigating the Nexus Between Antisemitism, Tax-Exempt Universities, and Terror Financing. The Committee followed the hearing with letters to those institutions on January 10, 2024, and follow-up letters in March. The Committee has broad jurisdiction over the Internal Revenue Code, which includes the generous tax-exemption most universities receive under Section 501 of the Code, the university endowment tax under Section 4968, and the excise tax on executive compensation for tax-exempt organizations under Section 4960.

• The House Judiciary Committee has broad jurisdiction over "civil liberties," "criminal law enforcement," and federal immigration law. This includes jurisdiction over the Department of Justice, the Civil Rights Act, and enforcement of the immigration laws.

• The House Committee on Energy and Commerce Pursuant to Rules X and XI of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Committee is investigating concerns over the extent to which the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and its grant awarding agencies—such as the National Institutes of Health (NIH)—are ensuring that universities receiving Federal funds are fostering and maintaining an environment free from harassment and discrimination.

• The House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology has broad jurisdiction over non military research and development. This jurisdiction includes science-based scholarships and grants to universities from multiple federal departments and agencies including: the National Science Foundation, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Weather Service, Federal Aviation Administration, Environmental Protection Agency, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

Congressional oversight powers are derived from the U.S. Constitution and have been repeatedly affirmed by the United States Supreme Court. Under House Rule X, each of the undersigned Committees has legislative and oversight jurisdiction over the previously enumerated areas.

The fight against antisemitism is not a partisan issue. The undersigned Committee chairs are proud to conduct this work with substantial bipartisan support and will not rest until the facts are known and UCLA and others restore a safe learning environment for your students and properly steward the taxpayer funds placed in your care.

_____ _____ Virginia Foxx Jason Smith
Chairwoman Chairman

_____ _____ Cathy McMorris Rodgers Jim Jordan
Chairwoman Chairman Committee on Energy and Commerce Committee on the Judiciary

_____ _____ James Comer Frank
Lucas Chairman Chairman Committee on Oversight and Accountability Committee on Science,
Space, & Technology